

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the 2nd paragraph on page 10 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

A plurality of toner layers are formed on the surface of the substrate 1 (toner layer forming step) by using an electrophotographic apparatus (an image forming apparatus of the invention) 10; the toner image is primarily fixed (primary fixing step) with a fixing device 20; the toner image is secondarily fixed in an oven 30 (secondary fixing step). Subsequently, the surface of the fixed image is laminated with a laminate film for protecting the fixed image surface to produce aan image-recorded medium. The laminated image-recorded medium is formed into a panel member in a panel cutting step, and finally used to make a final product such as an automobile panel meter in a panel assembling step. The image forming method of the invention comprises the toner layer forming step, primary fixing step and secondary fixing step.

Please replace the 2nd paragraph on page 22 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

The primary fixed image is subjected to secondary fixing preferably by passing the primary fixed image through a nip between a pair of heated rolls 32 under the reduced pressure from the viewpoint of eliminating most of the voids present in the fixed image by the secondary fixing step. When such heated rolls are used, the temperature of the heated roll is preferably a temperature such that the entire toner layers are heated to at least the meeting point of the toner; specifically, a temperature range of 120 to 170°C is preferable.